

PREFACE TO VOLUME XX.

It is with mingled feelings of pleasure and dissatisfaction that we write these last words of volume twenty, which, at the same time, are both a preface and a valedictory. We are pleased that the Magazine has finished its twentieth year, and is now prepared to enter upon its majority ; that we have had the honour of filling the editorial chair even for one short year, and for the expression of encouragement and approval so many of our readers have seen fit to give, including the members of the Publishing Company, who have urged upon us the continuance of the duties so briefly discharged.

We are quite as much if not more dissatisfied with our efforts in this responsible and important work than are our keenest critics, and with them, would be quite ready to join in a vote of "want of confidence" if one was called for ; neither are we without some feelings of regret as we lay down the quill, and leave the chair which lead into a line of pursuit quite congenial to our taste. We desire, however, to make a vacancy that shall be filled by one not only more able, but who can devote a very large proportion of his attention to this important work.

Very heartily thanking our many friends who have so materially aided us with their literary contributions, and all, for their forbearance and indulgence, we would say, "Be not weary in well doing."

S. N. J.